

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-21 were pending when last examined. With this Response, Applicant amends Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 10-16, 19, and 20. All pending claims are shown in the detailed listing above.

**Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102**

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Balamurugan et al. (USPN 6,320,795 B1). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1, as amended, recites *inter alia*, “providing a plurality of bit lines; providing a data bus having a plurality of bus lines, wherein each bus line is connectable to a respective portion of a plurality of bit lines; charging at least one of the bus lines of the data bus to a first voltage level; maintaining the at least one of the bus lines of the data bus at the first voltage level when a first type of data signal is to be driven across the at least one of the bus lines of the data bus; and pulling the data bus to a second voltage level when a second type of data signal is to be driven across the at least one of the bus lines of the data bus.” Balamurugan et al. does not disclose each of these limitations. As such, this reference does not anticipate Applicant’s invention recited in Claim 1.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn and this claim be allowed. Furthermore, because each of Claims 2 through 13 depend from Claim 1 and include further limitations, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of these dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) also be withdrawn and these dependent claims be allowed.

Claim 14, as amended, recites *inter alia*, “a plurality of bit lines; a data bus having a plurality of bus lines, wherein each bus line is connectable to a respective portion of the plurality of bit lines; a charging circuit coupled to at least one of the bus lines of the data bus, wherein the charging circuit is configured to charge the at least one of the bus lines of the data bus to a first voltage level; and a pull-down circuit coupled to the at least one of the bus

lines of the data bus, wherein the pull-down circuit is configured to pull the at least one of the bus lines of the data bus to a second voltage level.” Balamurugan et al. does not disclose each of these limitations. As such, this reference does not anticipate Applicant’s invention recited in Claim 14.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) be withdrawn and this claim be allowed. Furthermore, because each of Claims 15 through 21 depend from Claim 1 and include further limitations, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of these dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) also be withdrawn and these dependent claims be allowed.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully requests that the pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue. Should the Examiner wish to discuss the Application, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at (415) 772-7428.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.:

Respectfully submitted,

**EV 611 225 624 US**

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March 7, 2005  
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